

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR
WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1998

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, September 9, 1998.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

MISSILE DEFENSE

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, we are now living in a world where missile technology is proliferating and the risk of missile attack is increasing each and every day. The United States should be working to eliminate restrictions on the development and deployment of a national missile defense system.

Unfortunately, the President and his administration have sought to expand the restrictions and block U.S. missile defense programs. Just last year at the United Nations, a delegation led by our Secretary of State signed three agreements that dealt with the 1972 ABM

treaty. Those U.N. agreements threaten America's national security and perpetuate America's vulnerability to a missile attack.

While this administration along with four independent states of the former Soviet Union agreed to these restrictions, the remaining 11 states in the former Soviet Union would be free to develop tests and deploy ABM systems. Yes, that is right, they can develop an ABM system, but we cannot.

I ask you, Mr. Speaker, why would this administration limit the United States in a program of a missile defense system while enabling others to have it? I believe that those are our rights and freedoms. As far as I am concerned they are not negotiable.

The citizens of this Nation deserve the best defense we can provide, not a backroom deal that endangers our national security.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. YATES (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for after 6:00 p.m. today on account of physical reasons.

Mr. MANTON (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for after 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 6, on account of personal reasons.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. THORNBERRY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. LEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LAFALCE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CONYERS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FALEMAVAEGA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. UNDERWOOD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HOYER, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following member (at the request of Mr. THORNBERRY) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PAPPAS, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 58 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until today, Friday, August 7, 1998, at 11 a.m.

NOTICE

Incomplete record of House proceedings; today's House proceedings will be continued in the next issue of the the Record.